

absence of prayer, and there can be no better proof that a man is "filled with the Spirit," than to know that he "gives himself unto prayer."

Beloved brother, is there not a great lack of prayer amongst us? Alas! must we not confess that our closets, our households, our assembly meetings for prayer, bear witness to this and prove that we are oftentimes culpably indifferent to this high and holy privilege of expressing OUR interest in all that interests the heart of God, and affects the glory of His beloved Son.

Let us consider HIM—our blessed Example and Pattern. He commenced, carried on, and ended His ministry with prayer. We read of Him praying at the time of His baptism, Luke iii. 21; "He withdrew Himself into the wilderness and prayed," Luke v. 16; "He went out into a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God," Luke vi. 12; "He was alone praying," Luke ix. 18; "He took Peter, and James, and John, and went up into a mountain to pray," Luke ix. 28; "He was praying in a certain place," Luke xi. 1; "He kneeled down and prayed," Luke xxii. 41; "He prayed more earnestly," Luke xxii. 44; and finally, at the very close of His marvellous life, amidst the agonies of the cross, He prays for His enemies, Luke xxiii. 34.

Consider Paul, who has exhorted us to be "followers of him even as he also was of Christ." When we think of his arduous and unremitting labours in connection with the ministry of the Word, while